

May 2014



Coos-Carroll County FSA Updates

- [County Committee Nominations](#)
- [GovDelivery Customers NOT Impacted by the Heartbleed Bug](#)
- [Request for Soybean Referendum](#)
- [Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged](#)
- [Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program Sign-up Period For 2012 Crop Losses Begins](#)
- [Selected Interest Rates for May](#)
- [Dates to Remember](#)

Coos-Carroll County FSA Office **County Committee Nominations**

4 Mayberry Lane
Lancaster, NH 03584
Phone: 603-788-4602 Ext 2
Fax: 603-788-2538

County Executive Director:
Patricia Matte
patricia.matte@nh.usda.gov

Program Technician:
Paulette Couture
paulette.couture@nh.usda.gov

County Committee:
Julie Hussey - Chair
Bruce Savage - Vice-Chair
Joyce Brady - Member
Wayne Cheney - Member
Richard Fortin - Member

Next County Committee:
June 12, 2014, 11:00 AM

Farm Loan Office:

COC elections provide farmers the opportunity to represent producers in their community by serving on their local FSA COC. All farmers are encouraged to consider running for COC seats.

The nomination period begins June 15, 2014 and ends August 1, 2014. Nomination form (FSA-669A) may be obtained at the FSA office or online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>. One Local Administrative Area (LAA) is holding election: LAA-1, comprised of the towns of Lancaster, Jefferson, Northumberland, Whitefield and Dalton.

Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on Nov. 3, 2014.

The nomination and election of responsible agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to ALL farmers with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer take part in this election because county committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

GovDelivery Customers NOT Impacted by the Heartbleed Bug

The Concord Center
10 Ferry St. Suite 212, Box 212
Concord, NH 03301
Phone (603) - 223-6003
Fax (603) - 223-6030

NH Acting Farm Loan

Manager:

Brian Kuper
brian.kuper@vt.usda.gov

Farm Loan Officers:

Lorna Wakefield
lorna.wakefield@nh.usda.gov
Rebecca Davis
rebecca.davis@nh.usda.gov
William Wilson
william.wilson@nh.usda.gov

GovDelivery customer subscriptions are not affected by the Heartbleed bug.

This bug has caused major security concerns among users of cloud technology. The Heartbleed bug refers to a flaw in an encryption tool used on the Internet that can expose data that is meant to be hidden.

Your GovDelivery account and information is safe. Nothing in the GovDelivery network architecture is affected by this bug.

You can find out more about the Heartbleed bug at <http://heartbleed.com/>

Request for Soybean Referendum

USDA will offer soybean producers the opportunity to request a referendum on the Soybean Promotion and Research Order, as authorized under the Soybean Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act.

Soybean producers who are interested in having a referendum to determine whether to continue the Soybean Checkoff Program are invited to participate. To be eligible to participate, producers must certify and provide documentation that shows they produced soybeans and paid an assessment on the soybeans during the period of Jan. 1, 2012 through Dec. 31, 2013.

To participate, eligible persons may obtain LS-51-1 in-person, by mail, FAX, or telephone from their local FSA office. Persons may also obtain LS-51-1 through the Internet at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/SoybeaninformationontheSoybeanRequestforReferendum>. On the Research and Promotion Programs Screen that will be displayed, under "I Want To", CLICK "Go to the Soybean Referendum Form 51-1 - PDF".

Completed forms and supporting documentation must be returned to the appropriate FSA county office by fax or in person no later than close of business May 30, 2014. If returned by mail, it must be postmarked by midnight May 30, 2014, and received in the office by close of business on June 5, 2014.

Producers who don't participate in FSA programs can still request a referendum at the FSA county office where they own or rent land.

Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of socially disadvantaged applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities.

For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program Sign-up Period For 2012 Crop Losses Begins

Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that sign-up begins today for 2012 crop losses under the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) program. The program, established by the 2008 Farm Bill, provides for one final period of eligibility for producers suffering crop losses caused by natural disasters occurring through Sept. 30, 2011, for crops intended for 2012 harvest.

To be eligible for SURE, a farm or ranch must have:

- At least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance resulting from a disaster occurring on or before Sept. 30, 2011. A crop of economic significance contributes at least five percent of the expected revenue for a producer's farm. Additionally, the crop must also meet the following eligibility criteria:
- The crop must be considered a 2012 crop which means, in general, that the crop was intended for harvest in 2012;
- For insured crops, the coverage period must have begun on or before Sept. 30, 2011;
- For crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Assistance Program, the coverage period must have begun on or before Sept. 30, 2011;
- The final planting date, according to the specific coverage for the crop, must have been on or before Sept. 30, 2011.
- Note: A producer who only plants fall seeded or spring seeded crops with a final planting date on Oct. 1, 2011 or later) cannot meet the above eligibility criteria and will not be eligible for the 2012 SURE program.
- A policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program for all economically significant crops;
- Been physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Secretary of Agriculture under a Secretarial Disaster Designation. Without a Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may be eligible if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster. A "farm" for SURE purposes means the entirety of all crop acreage in all counties that a producer planted or intended to be planted for harvest for normal commercial sale or on-farm livestock feeding, including native and improved grassland intended for haying.

Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program coverage.

Farmers and ranchers interested in signing up must do so before the Aug. 29, 2014, deadline.

For more information on the 2012 SURE program, visit any USDA Service Center or online at www.fsa.usda.gov/sure.

Selected Interest Rates for May

Farm Operating, Direct including Microloans: 2.125%
Farm Ownership, Direct: 4.0%

Farm Ownership, Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer:: 1.5%
Emergency Loan: 3.125%
Farm Storage Facility Loans, 7 yr.: 2.25%

Dates to Remember

May 5 through May 30: Soybean request for referendum
May 26: Memorial Day, office closed
May 30: Last day to make start month changes for MILC
June 2: Acreage reports due for ornamental nursery
June 12: County Committee Meeting
June 15: Nomination period begins for County Committee elections in LAA 1

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).



Update your subscriptions, modify your password or e-mail address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). You will need to use your e-mail address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please contact subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com. For all other inquiries, please contact askfsa@usda.gov.

If you have questions about FSA activities, please view our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page or you may also [Search](#) our web site. These features are designed to assist you in obtaining the information you are seeking.

This service is provided to you at no charge by the [USDA Farm Service Agency](#).